<u>AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS</u>

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the subject application, with the status of each claim indicated in a parenthetical expression. The text of each claim under examination is presented, with currently amended claims including markings showing the changes made relative to the immediate prior version.

1. (Original)   An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system comprising

at least one domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system, said at least one domain of discourse including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty available for the student to read via a monitor of the computer system;

semantic space method means for receiving a summary prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system of one of said instructional passages read by the student, said semantic space method means being adapted to automatically evaluate the summary for congruence with said one of said instructional passages and to automatically determine which of said instructional passages from said domain of discourse the student should read next based on the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages; and

immediate feedback data capable of being provided to the student via the computer system and including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages and including the identity of which of said instructional passages the student should read next.

2. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 1 and further including one or more semantic spaces produced by a machine-learning method and wherein said semantic space method means includes one or more semantic space algorithms operating on said one or more semantic spaces.

,

3. (Previously Presented) The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 2 wherein said machine-learning method includes a machine learning algorithm incorporating latent semantic analysis.

4. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 2 and further including a graphical user interface by which said reading tutoring system communicates with the student via the computer system.

5. (Previously Presented) An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system comprising

at least one domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system, said at least one domain of discourse including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty available for the student to read via a monitor of the computer system;

a comprehension tutor module accessible by the student via the computer system, said comprehension tutor module being adapted to present the student with interactive summarizing instruction and exercises via the computer system;

one or more semantic spaces produced by a machine-learning method;

semantic space method means for receiving a summary prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system of one of said instructional passages read by the student, said semantic space method means including one or more semantic space algorithms operating on said one or more semantic spaces, said semantic space method means being adapted to automatically evaluate the summary for congruence with said one of said instructional passages and to automatically determine which of said instructional passages from said domain of discourse the student should read next based on the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages; and

immediate feedback data capable of being provided to the student via the computer system and including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages and including the identity of which of said instructional passages the student should read next.

6. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 5 wherein said comprehension tutor module is adapted to communicate key words from said one of said instructional passages.

7. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 5 wherein said comprehension tutor module is adapted to present the student with a cloze activity.

8. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 5 wherein said comprehension tutor module is adapted to present the student with a sequencing activity.

9. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 5 wherein said comprehension tutor module is adapted to present the student with a concept identification activity.

10. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 5 wherein said comprehension tutor module is adapted to present the student with a summary writing activity including the option to submit a practice summary, said semantic space method means is adapted to receive a practice summary prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system and to automatically evaluate the practice summary to assess the student's reading comprehension, and said immediate feedback data includes information regarding the quality of the practice summary as a measure of reading comprehension.

11. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system comprising

at least one domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system, said at least one domain of discourse including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty available for the student to read via a monitor of the computer system;

4

a vocabulary tutor module accessible by the student via the computer system, said vocabulary tutor module being adapted to communicate principal vocabulary words from said one of said instructional passages to the student via the computer system, including definitions, synonyms, antonyms and samples of correct usage, and to present the student with interactive practice exercises for said principal vocabulary words, said vocabulary tutor module being adapted to automatically evaluate the student's performance on said interactive practice exercises;

one or more semantic spaces produced by a machine-learning method;

semantic space method means for receiving a summary prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system of one of said instructional passages read by the student, said semantic space method means including one or more semantic space algorithms operating on said one or more semantic spaces, said semantic space method means being adapted to automatically evaluate the summary for congruence with said one of said instructional passages and to automatically determine which of said instructional passages from said domain of discourse the student should read next based on the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages; and

immediate feedback data capable of being provided to the student via the computer system and including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages and including the identity of which of said instructional passages the student should read next, said immediate feedback data including information regarding the student's performance on said interactive practice exercises.

12. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 11 wherein said vocabulary tutor module selects the principal vocabulary words to be communicated based on word features.

13. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 12 wherein said vocabulary tutor module selects the principal vocabulary words based on word features including word length and commonality.

14. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 11 wherein said vocabulary tutor module is adapted to present the student with an interactive practice exercise including sentences using the principal vocabulary words correctly and incorrectly.

15. (Original)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 11 wherein said vocabulary tutor module is adapted to present the student with an interactive practice exercise including identification of synonyms and antonyms for the principal vocabulary words.

16. (Original)   The automated computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 11 and further including a voice recognition system capable of receiving audible input from a student via the computer system, said vocabulary tutor module being adapted to present the student with an interactive practice exercise allowing the student to submit an audible reading of the principal vocabulary words for determination of correct pronunciation.

17. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system comprising

at least one domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system, said at least one domain of discourse including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty available for the student to read via a monitor of the computer system;

a voice recognition system capable of receiving audible input from a student via the computer system;

a fluency tutor module accessible by the student via the computer system, said fluency tutor module being adapted to audibly communicate an audibly correct reading of said one of said instructional passages to the student via the computer system, to receive an audible reading of said one of said instructional passages by the student via the computer system, and to automatically evaluate the audible reading for accuracy and speed;

one or more semantic spaces produced by a machine-learning method;

semantic space method means for receiving a summary prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system of one of said instructional passages read by the student, said semantic space method means including one or more semantic space algorithms operating on said one or more semantic spaces, said semantic space method means being adapted to automatically evaluate the summary for congruence with said one of said instructional passages and to automatically determine which of said instructional passages from said domain of discourse the

student should read next based on the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages; and

immediate feedback data capable of being provided to the student via the computer system and including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages and including the identity of which of said instructional passages the student should read next, said immediate feedback data including information regarding the accuracy and speed of the audible reading.

18. (Original) An automated, computer-based reading tutoring system comprising

at least one domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system, said at least one domain of discourse including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty available for the student to read via a monitor of the computer system;

a semantic space derived from a machine learning method;

a semantic space module for receiving a summary prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system of one of said instructional passages read by the student, said semantic space module operating on said semantic space to automatically evaluate the summary for congruence with said one of said instructional passages and to automatically determine which of said instructional passages from said domain of discourse the student should read next based on the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages; and

immediate feedback data capable of being provided to the student via the

computer system and including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with said one of said instructional passages and including the identity of which of said instructional passages the student should read next.

19. (Previously Presented)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 18 wherein said semantic space is derived from latent semantic analysis.

20. (Canceled)   The automated, computer-based reading tutoring system as recited in claim 18 wherein said semantic space is derived from HAL.

21. (Canceled)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 18 wherein said semantic space is derived from EM.

22. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 18 wherein said semantic space module includes a semantic space algorithm operating on said semantic space.

23. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said receiving, said automatically evaluating, said automatically selecting and said communicating steps for the instructional passage that the student reads next.

24. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of receiving includes receiving an audible summary from the student.

25. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 23 wherein said step of automatically evaluating and said step of

automatically selecting are performed using semantic space algorithms.

26. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension, said step of automatically evaluating and said step of automatically selecting being performed using semantic space algorithms, said step of automatically selecting including selecting the passage that the student should optimally read next based on the congruence of the summary with the previously selected instructional passage;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the

instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said receiving, said automatically evaluating, said automatically selecting and said communicating steps for the instructional passage that the student reads next.

27. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension, said step of automatically evaluating and said step of automatically selecting being performed using semantic space algorithms, said step of automatically selecting including selecting the passage that the student should optimally read next based on the congruence of the summary with the other passages in the domain;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said receiving, said automatically evaluating, said automatically selecting and said communicating steps for the instructional passage that the student reads next.

28. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

providing the student access to an automated comprehension tutor via the computer system;

providing the student access to an automated vocabulary tutor via the computer system;

providing the student access to an automated fluency tutor via the computer system;

receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected

instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said steps of providing the student access to the comprehension tutor, the vocabulary tutor and the fluency tutor, said step of receiving, said step of automatically evaluating, said step of automatically selecting and said step of communicating for the instructional passage that the student reads next.

29. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 28 wherein said step of providing the student access to a comprehension tutor includes communicating, via the computer system, key words to the student from the selected instructional passage and presenting the student with interactive summarizing instruction and exercises, and said step of communicating feedback data includes communicating information regarding the student's performance on the interactive summarizing exercises.

30. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 28 wherein said step of providing the student access to a vocabulary tutor includes communicating, via the computer system, principal vocabulary words to

the student from the selected instructional passage including definitions, synonyms, antonyms, samples of correct usage, and interactive practice exercises for the principal vocabulary words, and said step of communicating feedback data includes communicating information regarding the student's performance on the interactive practice exercises.

31. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 30 wherein said step of communicating principal vocabulary words includes selecting the principal vocabulary words based on one or more word features.

32. (Previously Presented)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 31 wherein said step of selecting the principal vocabulary words includes selecting the principal vocabulary words based on word features including word length, frequency of occurrence in printed matter and word difficulty.

33. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring as recited in claim 28 wherein said step of providing the student access to a fluency tutor includes audibly communicating an audibly correct reading of the selected instructional passage to the student via the computer system, receiving an audible reading of the selected instructional passage by the student via the computer system and automatically evaluating the audible reading for accuracy and speed against the correct reading, and said step of communicating feedback data includes communicating

information regarding the accuracy and speed of the audible reading.

34. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

'   receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension, said step of automatically selecting including selecting the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next based on the congruence of the summary with other passages in the domain of discourse;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said receiving, said automatically evaluating, said automatically selecting and said communicating steps for the instructional passage that the student

16

reads next.

35. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension, said step of automatically selecting including selecting the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next based on the congruence of the summary with the previously selected instructional passage;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said receiving, said automatically evaluating, said automatically selecting and said communicating steps for the instructional passage that the student

reads next.

36. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of reading tutoring comprising the steps of

providing a domain of discourse accessible by a student via a computer system and including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty;

selecting one of the instructional passages to appear on a monitor of the computer system for the student to read;

receiving a summary of the selected instructional passage prepared by the student and submitted via the computer system;

automatically checking the summary for validity;

automatically evaluating the summary for congruence with the selected instructional passage to obtain a measure of the student's reading comprehension;

automatically selecting an instructional passage from the domain of discourse that the student should optimally read next based on the measure of the student's reading comprehension;

communicating feedback data to the student, via the computer system, including an indicator reflective of the student's reading comprehension and the identity of the instructional passage that the student should optimally read next; and

repeating said receiving, said automatically evaluating, said automatically selecting and said communicating steps for the instructional passage that the student reads next.

37. (Previously Presented)　　　An automated, computer-based method of self-guided reading tutoring comprising the steps of

accessing a computer-based reading tutoring system via a computer system;

viewing a selected instructional passage from a domain of discourse, including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty, of the reading tutoring system on a monitor of the computer system;

reading the selected instructional passage;

preparing a summary of the selected instructional passage;

submitting the summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with the selected instructional passage and including the identity of one or more recommended instructional passages from the domain of discourse that should be read next based on the congruence of the summary with the selected instructional passage; and

repeating said steps of viewing, reading, preparing, submitting and receiving for one of the recommended instructional passages.

38. (Previously Presented)　　　An automated, computer-based method of self-guided reading tutoring comprising the steps of

accessing a computer-based reading tutoring system via a computer system;

self-selecting a domain of discourse via the computer system from a plurality of

19

domains of discourse of the reading tutoring system, each domain of discourse

including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of

reading difficulty;

viewing a selected instructional passage from the selected domain of discourse

on a monitor of the computer system;

reading the selected instructional passage;

preparing a summary of the selected instructional passage;

submitting the summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the

computer system including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary

with the selected instructional passage and including the identity of one or more

recommended instructional passages from the domain of discourse that should be read

next based on the congruence of the summary with the selected instructional passage;

and

repeating said steps of viewing, reading, preparing, submitting and receiving for

one of the recommended instructional passages.

39. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of self-guided

reading tutoring as recited in claim 37 wherein said step of submitting includes

submitting a written summary.

40. (Original)   The automated, computer-based method of self-guided

reading tutoring as recited in claim 37 wherein said step of submitting includes

submitting an audible summary.

41. (Previously Presented)　　　An automated, computer-based method of self-guided reading tutoring comprising the steps of

accessing a computer-based reading tutoring system via a computer system;

viewing a selected instructional passage from a domain of discourse, including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty, of the reading tutoring system on a monitor of the computer system;

reading the selected instructional passage;

preparing a practice summary of the selected instructional passage;

submitting the practice summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including information regarding the quality of the practice summary as a measure of reading comprehension;

preparing a non-practice summary of the selected instructional passage;

submitting the non-practice summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the non-practice summary with the selected instructional passage and including the identity of one or more recommended instructional passages from the domain of discourse that should be read next based on the congruence of the non-practice summary with the selected

21

instructional passage; and

repeating said steps of viewing, reading, preparing, submitting and receiving for one of the recommended instructional passages.

42. (Previously Presented) An automated, computer-based method of self-guided reading tutoring comprising the steps of

accessing a computer-based reading tutoring system via a computer system;

viewing a selected instructional passage from a domain of discourse, including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty, of the reading tutoring system on a monitor of the computer system;

reading the selected instructional passage;

viewing principal vocabulary words from the selected instructional passage,

including definitions, synonyms, antonyms, and samples of correct usage for the

principal vocabulary words, on the monitor;

preparing a summary of the selected instructional passage;

submitting the summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer

system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the

computer system including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary

with the selected instructional passage and including the identity of one or more

recommended instructional passages from the domain of discourse that should be

read next based on the congruence of the summary with the selected instructional

passage; and

repeating said steps of viewing, reading, preparing, submitting and receiving

for one of the recommended instructional passages.

43. (Previously Presented)   The automated, computer-based method of

self-guided reading tutoring as recited in claim 42 and further including performing

interactive practice exercises, via the computer system, using the principal

vocabulary words.

44. (Previously Presented)   An automated, computer-based method of

self-guided reading tutoring comprising the steps of

accessing a computer-based reading tutoring system via a computer system;

viewing a selected instructional passage from a domain of discourse,

including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty, of the reading tutoring system on a monitor of the computer system;

listening to an audibly correct reading of the selected instructional passage via the computer system;

submitting an audible reading of the selected instructional passage to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including information regarding the accuracy and speed of the audible reading;

preparing a summary of the selected instructional passage subsequent to reading the instructional passage;

submitting the summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with the selected instructional passage and including the identity of one or more recommended instructional passages from the domain of discourse that should be read next based on the congruence of the non-practice summary with the selected instructional passage; and

repeating said steps of viewing, preparing, submitting the summary and receiving an indicator for one of the recommended instructional passages.

including a plurality of instructional passages of different, predetermined levels of reading difficulty, of the reading tutoring system on a monitor of the computer system;

listening to an audibly correct reading of the selected instructional passage via the computer system;

submitting an audible reading of the selected instructional passage to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including information regarding the accuracy and speed of the audible reading;

preparing a summary of the selected instructional passage subsequent to reading the instructional passage;

submitting the summary to the reading tutoring system via the computer system;

receiving immediate feedback data from the reading tutoring system via the computer system including an indicator reflective of the congruence of the summary with the selected instructional passage and including the identity of one or more recommended instructional passages from the domain of discourse that should be read next based on the congruence of the non-practice summary with the selected instructional passage; and

repeating said steps of viewing, preparing, submitting the summary and receiving an indicator for one of the recommended instructional passages.